

**Government Agencies Technology Exchange in Manufacturing (GATE-M)  
MEETING SUMMARY**

**December 16, 2002  
at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)  
Gaithersburg, Maryland**

**Introductory Remarks**

Summary

- Attendees:
  - Dan Cundiff, DOD
  - Hank Kenchington, DOE EERE
  - Roger Hayes, DOE NNSA
  - John Vickers, NASA
  - Warren DeVries, NSF
  - Dale Hall, NIST (Panel Chair)
  - Dave Stieren, NIST
- Warren DeVries was introduced to the Panel as the NSF representative, filling in for George Hazelrigg. Warren is the Division Director for Design, Manufacture and Industrial Innovation within NSF's Directorate for Engineering.

Actions

- None identified.

**Charter Discussion**

Summary

- The GATE-M charter was provided to DOE EERE for their signature. The DOE EERE signature would represent the final signature from the six agencies.
- A draft copy of a GATE-M press release prepared by NIST was distributed to the Panel and discussed.
  - This press release is intended for dissemination by NIST upon the complete execution of the GATE-M charter in early January 2003.
  - It is intended that each agency can issue its own press release based upon and referencing this as appropriate.
- A draft copy of a GATE-M report prepared by NIST was distributed to the Panel and discussed.
  - This report documents the progress and activities of GATE-M from its inception to the current time. It is intended to be read by executives within the GATE-M

agencies, Congressional staffers, and industry associations, among other parties who may have an interest in the activities of GATE-M.

### Actions

- DOE EERE will provide the final, signed copy of the charter to NIST as early as possible in January 2003, and NIST will in turn distribute a fully signed copy to each agency.
- NIST will e-mail the Panel a copy of the press release as soon as possible, and each agency should provide comments about this write-up to NIST by January 6, 2003.°Upon receiving and incorporating agency comments, it is planned that NIST will disseminate the press release this in early January.°
- Each agency can also release something similar (based upon and referencing this write-up), as each agency determines is appropriate.
- NIST will e-mail the Panel a copy of the GATE-M report as soon as possible, and each agency should provide comments about this document to NIST by January 6, 2003. NIST will then publish this document in January.
- Each agency should also communicate the name of the person(s) within the agencies that should receive a copy of the document, along with a cover letter from Arden Bement, the NIST Director.

## **Planning for the Joint Agency Program Review**

### Summary

- The Joint GATE-M Program Review was discussed at length in terms of what should be addressed, who should participate, what types of results should be targeted, when the event should be held, how long the event needs to be, event location, and other logistical and operational details.
- The following decisions were made by the Panel regarding the event:
  - The event should include the conduct of parallel sessions to address both of the issues selected for joint address by GATE-M: Intelligence in Manufacturing and Nano- / Micro-Scale Systems and Technologies.
  - The review should result in the production of an actionable report summarizing both the proceedings, as well as any findings from the review.
  - The review should primarily target the participation of program manager-level personnel from the agencies as both presenters and attendees.
  - The review should include agency updates at the outset, followed by detailed technical-level program briefings.
  - Some type of media release should be considered in conjunction with the conduct of the event.
  - The Panel should consider ensuring that the review covers life-cycle manufacturing topics in the two joint issue areas across the agencies.

- The Panel should consider the possibility of the review leading into the creation of focus groups or subpanels across the agencies to address the two joint issue areas.
- The review should not exceed 2-3 days in length.
- A professional facilitator may be useful to assist in the conduct of the review.

### Actions

- The Panel should begin to explore calendar possibilities in April and May of 2003 as possible review dates.
  - As soon as possible, NIST will distribute blocks of time to the Panel in April and May that represent possible options.
- The Panel should begin to identify personnel from the various agencies for participation in the review.
- The subject areas of Intelligence in Manufacturing and Nano- / Micro-Scale Systems and Technologies need to be better described in advance of the program review itself, as well as the process for soliciting participation in the review. NIST will circulate draft revisions to the Panel as soon as possible.
- As soon as possible, the Panel members should identify and circulate to one another possible facilitators to use for the review.

## **GATE-M Issue Advocacy**

### Summary

- The notion of GATE-M issue advocacy was discussed by the Panel, specifically addressing the development of white papers in the two areas identified for joint address by GATE-M.
- The establishment of relationships between GATE-M and other entities was also discussed.
- It was decided that GATE-M white paper development should occur as a result of and after the conduct of the Interagency Program Review in the spring-summer 2003 timeframe.
  - Regarding Intelligence in Manufacturing, a potential white paper should clearly define the scope of the issue from GATE-M's perspective. The white paper should target the identification of barriers to the rapid deployment of the technology within and across manufacturing systems. And, the white paper should potentially identify a thrust (or set of thrusts) within the scope of the area that can/should be addressed by the 6 GATE-M agencies.
  - Regarding Nano- / Micro-Scale Systems and Technologies, a potential white paper should definitely be communicated to the National Nanotechnology Initiative (NNI), and it should result in clear definition of what the GATE-M agencies will be doing in the area, along with how that relates to the NNI. The potential white paper might also include a charge to a future workshop group to

address a set of issues identified during the 2003 GATE-M Interagency Program Review.

- Regarding GATE-M relationships to other entities and initiatives, it was determined that GATE-M should, in general, support industry efforts to improve manufacturing R&D within the United States. GATE-M should be proactive in communicating its activities to any interested organizations and efforts. It was also determined, though, that GATE-M at the current time is wholly focused on improving the means by which its participating agencies work with one another in terms of communicating about their programs and interests, coordinating with one another, and leveraging from one another's capabilities as appropriate.
  - It is still premature for GATE-M to consider aligning with any national initiatives, especially realizing that GATE-M has not yet made a determination that it will pursue the development of any specific initiatives in the near-term.
  - At least for the near future, the issues identified for joint address by GATE-M will be addressed within the context of seeking to improve how the GATE-M agencies work together in these areas (as described above), versus developing inter-agency initiatives in these areas.

#### Actions

- NIST will communicate the GATE-M positions that are described above to those groups interested in partnering/aligning with GATE-M in conjunction with the development of initiatives.
  - This communication should include OSTP, NACFAM, NAM, and others as appropriate.
  - Each agency representative should also communicate this same message to interested parties when approached with or encountering this topic.

#### **Other Business**

#### Summary

- The Manufacturing Forum, New Directions in Manufacturing, being conducted by the National Academies and sponsored by NIST was discussed. Each agency was reminded to submit the names of persons from their organizations, or persons from organizations with whom their agency interacts, that should be invited.

#### Actions

- As soon as possible, each agency should submit names of invitees to Toni Marechaux, [tmarecha@nas.edu](mailto:tmarecha@nas.edu), or Emily Ann Meyer, [emeyer@nas.edu](mailto:emeyer@nas.edu), at the National Academies.